

Attention FDA

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It came to my attention that the FDA is being asked to take away my right to sign a medical waiver before purchasing a hearing aid. Instead I would be forced to have a medical exam or hearing test. Here's my views and/or experiences on several related questions?

1. Should I be forced to have a medical exam and/or hearing test before purchasing a hearing aid? If so, should the FDA pay for the exam?

Here NO

2. Some people are physically unable to drive to a doctor or hearing specialist, or have had bad experiences they don't want to repeat. For instance ...

I've had 2 mail order aids - less than \$500 each.

I recently tried an audiologist - who sold an aid with a "computer chip" - magic! 2 different models - neither was better than what I have. Price: \$1800 each. Bill for hearing test: \$44

3. Should the FDA take away my Constitutional Right, affirmed by the Supreme Court, to decide for myself my medical exams and treatment?

In my opinion, even mail order aids are grossly overpriced

NO

4. Should I be allowed to purchase hearing aids by mail as I choose?

YES.

Marketers have banded together: Vendors cannot make simple repairs (no parts supplied): minimum charge for repair - for even the smallest plastic part replacement \$100! I

Signed by: Robert H. Merrill

Date: 3-2-'00

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